

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. No amendments are presently submitted, and the above Listing of Claims is provided for the convenience of the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks. In addition, an Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the reference disclosed therein.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0054766 (Clough) in combination with the Schneier reference (Schneier). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection in view of the following remarks.

The Clough application was filed on September 19, 2001 and was published on March 20, 2003. The present application was filed with a claim of priority on Serial No. 10/023,572, which includes a claim of priority on Serial No. 60/255,813 filed on December 15, 2000. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the citation of the Clough reference.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims (1, 10, and 20) are allowable over the cited art. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-9 and 11-19 are allowable, because they depend from claims 1 and 10, respectively. As the Examiner appreciates, if the independent claims are non-obvious, then the claims depending therefrom must also be non-obvious.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are allowable over the cited art, and requests that a Notice of Allowance issue for these claims. If the

Examiner has any questions or issues that can be resolved via telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 512-473-2550, ext. 102.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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